

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cooking apparatus, comprising:
 - a cabinet opened at a top surface thereof to provide an opening over which food to be cooked is laid;
 - a grill unit seated in the opening of the cabinet so as to support the food over the opening;
 - a heating unit provided in the cabinet so that a front surface thereof faces the grill unit to radiate thermal energy to the grill unit; and
 - a plurality of reflecting members provided at predetermined positions around a rear surface of the heating unit, the reflecting members installed to be spaced apart from each other by a predetermined gap to provide an air layer between the reflecting members.
2. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the reflecting members comprises:
 - a projection provided at a predetermined portion of the at least one reflecting member, and having an end supported by a neighboring reflecting member so that the at least one reflecting member and the neighboring reflecting member are spaced apart from each other by the predetermined gap.
3. The cooking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of reflecting members surround upper, lower, and rear portions of the heating unit, guiding the thermal energy generated from the heating unit to a front of the heating unit.
4. A cooking apparatus, comprising:

a cabinet to provide an opening over which food to be cooked is laid;
a tray to removably move in and out of the cabinet through the opening and to be received in a cavity provided in an interior of the cabinet;
a grill unit seated in the opening of the cabinet to support the food over the opening;
a plurality of heating units installed in the cabinet to face the grill unit and to transmit thermal energy to the grill unit supporting the food laid thereon; and
a plurality of reflecting members provided at predetermined positions around the heating unit, the reflecting members installed to be spaced apart from each other by a predetermined gap to provide an air layer between the reflecting members.

5. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the thermal heat generated by the heating units is repeatedly reflected by the reflecting members and limitedly transmitted to a portion of the heating units due to a heating insulating effect of the air layer provided between the reflecting members.

6. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein each of the heating units includes a ceramic member with a heating element to generate the thermal energy.

7. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the heating units are respectively set in both sides of the cavity so that the front surface of the heating units are opposite to each other.

8. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the heating units are inclinedly arranged to tilt toward the opening to transmit the thermal energy to the grill unit.

9. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the grill unit comprises:

a plurality of water tanks seated on both sides of the cabinet to contain water; and
a plurality of grill pipes arranged between the water tanks to connect the water tanks to each other, and having hollow structures so that the water is supplied thereto from the water tanks and flows therein.

10. The cooking apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the grill pipes are continuously cooled by the water supplied by the water tanks, preventing the food supported by the grill pipes from being burnt.

11. The cooking apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the tray comprises:
a hump along a central axis thereof; and
reflecting plates provided at both sides of the hump, to reflect the thermal energy from the heating units to the grill unit.

12. The cooking apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the reflecting plates are respectively provided at predetermined positions below the grill unit to reflect the thermal energy of the heating unit to the grill unit, so that the thermal energy reflected by the heat blocking member is guided to a central portion of the grill unit by the reflecting plates.

13. The cooking apparatus according to 11, further comprising:
oil collecting grooves provided along an edge of the reflecting plates to collect oil dropping from the food which is laid on the grill unit.

14. The cooking apparatus according to claim 13, wherein a predetermined amount of water is contained in the tray to prevent an excessive rise in temperature of the oil collecting groove and the reflecting plates, preventing the oil collected in the oil collecting groove from

being burnt and adhered to the tray.

15. The cooking apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a timer switch to control an operation time of the heating units; and

a power switch to control a heating temperature of the heating units.

16. A cooking apparatus having a cabinet to provide an opening over which food to be cooked is laid and a tray to removably move in and out of the cabinet through the opening, the apparatus comprising:

a grill unit seated in the opening of the cabinet to support the food over the opening;

a plurality of heating units installed in the cabinet to face the grill unit and to transmit thermal energy to the grill unit supporting the food laid thereon; and

first, second, and third reflecting members provided at predetermined positions around the heating unit.